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Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 7 is cancelled and claims 1 and 8 are amended as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An internal combustion engine including a two-stroke engine for a handheld portable work apparatus, the internal combustion engine comprising:

5 an outlet for discharging exhaust gases in a flow direction from said engine;

an exhaust-gas muffler having an attenuating space defining an inlet opening for receiving said exhaust gases;

10 at least one resonance pipe connected to said outlet and opening into said attenuating space via said inlet opening so as to cause said resonance pipe to be arranged in said flow direction between said outlet and said inlet opening for fluidly connecting said outlet to said inlet opening;

said resonance pipe having a diaphragm for opening into said exhaust-gas muffler;

15 said diaphragm having an equivalent diameter (d, d') measured in millimeters which amounts to approximately 1 to 3 times the square root of the volume of the piston displacement of said engine with said volume being measured in cubic centimeters;

~~and,~~

20 said resonance pipe having an equivalent diameter (D, D')
measured in millimeters which amounts to approximately 2.5 to 6
times the square root of the volume of the piston displacement of
said engine with said volume being measured in cubic ~~centimeters~~
centimeters; and,

25 said equivalent diameter (D, D') of said resonance pipe
being approximately constant over the length (L, L') thereof.

Claims 2 and 3 (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The internal combustion engine of
claim 1, wherein said diaphragm has an equivalent
diameter (d, d') measured in millimeters which amounts to
approximately 1.2 to 2.4 times the square root of the volume of
5 the piston displacement of said engine with said volume being
measured in cubic centimeters.

5. (Previously Presented) The internal combustion engine of
claim 1, wherein said equivalent diameter (d, d') is variable.

Claims 6 and 7 (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) The internal combustion engine of
~~claim 7~~ claim 4, wherein said length (L, L') of said resonance
pipe is matched to the engine speed (rpm) of said engine.

9. (Original) The internal combustion engine of claim 8,

wherein said length (L, L') of said resonance pipe is matched to 60% to 100% of the rated rpm of said engine speed (rpm).

10. (Original) The internal combustion engine of claim 1, wherein said resonance pipe is one of a plurality of resonance pipes.

11. (Original) The internal combustion engine of claim 10, wherein the inlet in at least one of said resonance pipes is closeable.

12. (Original) The internal combustion engine of claim 10, wherein at least one inlet opening into said exhaust-gas muffler is configured to be closeable.

13. (Previously Presented) The internal combustion engine of claim 1, wherein said internal combustion engine is mounted in a portable handheld work apparatus.